GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3430
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
AVAILABILITY OF SOYA, SUNFLOWER AND MUSTARD OIL
ANANDRAO ADSUL

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the availability of the soya, sunflower and mustard oils has decreased during the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether their imports have been made to meet the demand in the country during 2000-2001;

(d) if so, the quantum of edible oils imported during the said period; and

(e) the steps being taken to increase the production?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): The availability of a particular edible oil depends upon its production during that year in the country. The production of soybean, sunflower and rapeseed- mustard during the last 2 years is as under :

(000 tonnes)

Crop	Production 1999-2000	2000-01
Soybean	7081.4	5272.9
Sunflower	693.6	733.0
Rapeseed Mustard	5788.4	4207.1

The shortfall in the production of soybean and rapeseed-mustard is due to unfavourable weather conditions prevailing in the country.

(c) & (d): The demand for edible oil is not assessed on the basis of a particular edible oil but is assessed taking into account the production of all edible oils as a whole and the gap between the demand and supply is met through the import of edible oils. During the year 2000-01, the import of soybean, sunflower and rapeseed-mustard oil is as under:

(Qty.in lakh tonnes)

Edible Oil	
Soybean	3.67
Sunflower	3.25
Rapeseed Mustard	0.44

(e): In order to increase the production of oilseeds in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme(OPP) is in operation in 28 States covering 408 selected districts. Under the scheme, various incentives by way of subsidies is provided for motivating the farmers to take up the cultivation of oilseeds on a large scale.